

32. (Amended) A method to produce a functional T-type calcium ion channel α_1 subunit protein which method comprises culturing the cells of claim 31 under conditions wherein said expression system produces said protein.

33. (Amended) A method to prepare cells which produce a functional T-type calcium ion channel α_1 subunit protein which method comprises introducing into said cells the DNA molecule of claim 28.

Please add the following claim:

34. A method to obtain an isolated DNA molecule which encodes a functional α_1 subunit of a T-type, low voltage activated calcium ion channel or the complement of said nucleotide sequence which method comprises

- (a) providing a cDNA library prepared from brain cells;
- (b) probing said library with the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ. ID. NO: 18 or SEQ. ID. NO: 20 or their complements; or
- (c) amplifying said library using PCR primers designed from said SEQ. ID. NO: 18 or SEQ. ID. NO: 20 and their complements; and
- (d) retrieving DNA molecules which hybridize under medium stringency to the probe of (b) or which are amplified by the PCR amplification of (c); and
- (e) optionally ligating overlapping DNA molecules obtained in (d); whereby a DNA molecule encoding a functional α_1 subunit of a T-type, low voltage activated calcium ion channel or the complement of said DNA molecule is obtained.